

4 further configured to initiate retrieval of said stub when the remote method reference detector detects
5 that a remote method reference has been received in said execution environment.

1 3 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading subsystem as defined in claim 1 further including a
2 remote method invocation control [for controlling] configured to control invocation of said remote
3 method, said stub retriever [initiating] being further configured to initiate retrieval of said stub when
4 the remote method is invoked.
b1

1 4 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading subsystem as defined in claim 1, the remote method
2 invocation system further including [a] the server, the server [for processing] being configured to
3 process said remote method in response to a processing request therefor, the server further
4 [providing] being configured to provide said stub in response to a retrieval request from said stub
5 retriever.

1 5 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading subsystem as defined in claim 4 in which server
2 [provides] is configured to provide a separate address space for processing said remote method from
3 an address space provided by said execution environment.

✓ 8 Sub C3
1 C3 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading subsystem as defined in claim 4, further comprising a
2 remote server identifier [for providing] configured to provide a server identification for identifying
3 said server.

1 8 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading subsystem as defined in claim 7 further including a
2 remote method reference detector [for detecting] configured to detect whether a remote method

3 reference has been received in said execution environment, the remote method reference including
4 a remote method server identifier[, the remote server identifier using] configured to use the remote
5 method server identifier as the server identification.

1 9 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading subsystem as defined in claim 7 further including a
2 remote method invocation control [for providing] configured to provide a remote method invocation
3 identification for controlling invocation of said remote method, the remote method invocation
4 providing a remote method server identifier, the remote server identifier using the remote method
5 server identifier as the server identification.

b2
1 10 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading subsystem as defined in claim 7, the remote method
2 invocation system further including a nameserver [for providing] configured to provide a said server
3 identification, said remote server identifier initiating communication with said nameserver to obtain
4 the server identification for said remote method.

1 11 (Amended). For use in connection with a remote method invocation method, a stub retrieval and
2 loading method for facilitating the retrieval and loading of a stub for a remote method into an
3 execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said
4 execution environment, the stub retrieval method comprising the steps of:

- 5 A. a stub retrieval step [for] of initiating a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with
6 processing of said remote method; and
- 7 B. a stub loading step [for] of, when said stub is received, loading said stub into said execution
8 environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in remote invocation of said remote
9 method.

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14 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading method as defined in claim 11, the remote method
2 invocation system further including [a] the steps of enabling the server [for processing] to process
3 said remote method in response to a processing request therefor, and enabling the server [further
providing] to provide said stub in response to a retrieval request from said stub retriever.

B/C
21 (Amended). For use in connection with a remote method invocation system, a stub retrieval and
loading computer program product for controlling a computer to, in turn, control the retrieval and
loading of a stub for a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of the
remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, the stub retrieval computer
program product comprising a computer-readable medium having encoded thereon:

- 6 A. stub retriever code devices configured to enable said computer to initiate a retrieval of said
7 stub [; and] from a server associated with processing of said remote method; and
- 8 B. [a] stub loader code devices configured to enable said computer to, when said stub is
9 received, [loading] load said stub into said execution environment, thereby to make the stub
10 available for use in remote invocation of said remote method.

22 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading computer program product as defined in claim 21 further
including remote method reference detector code devices [for enabling] configured to enable said
computer to detect whether a remote method reference has been received in said execution
environment, the stub retriever code devices [enabling] being configured to enable said computer
to initiate retrieval of said stub when the remote method reference detector code devices enable said
computer to detect that a remote method reference has been received in said execution environment.

1 23 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading computer program product as defined in claim 21 further
2 including remote method invocation control code devices [for enabling] configured to enable said
3 computer to control invocation of said remote method, said stub retriever code devices [enabling]
4 being configured to enable said computer to initiate retrieval of said stub when the remote method
5 is invoked.

1 24 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading computer program product as defined in claim 21, the
2 remote method invocation system further including [a] the server, the server being configured for
3 processing said remote method in response to a processing request therefor, the server further
4 [providing] further configured to provide said stub in response to a retrieval request from said [stub
5 retriever] computer.

1 25 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading computer program product as defined in claim 24 in
2 which server [provides] is configured to provide a separate address space for processing said remote
3 method from an address space provided by said execution environment.

1 27 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading computer program product as defined in claim 24,
2 further comprising remote server identifier code devices [for enabling] configured to enable said
3 computer to provide a server identification for identifying said server.

1 29 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading computer program product as defined in claim 27 further
2 including remote method invocation control code devices [for enabling] configured to enable said
3 computer to provide a remote method invocation identification for controlling invocation of said
4 remote method, the remote method invocation providing a remote method server identifier, the

5 remote server identifier code devices [enabling] being configured to enable said computer to use the
6 remote method server identifier as the server identification.

1 30 (Amended). A stub retrieval and loading computer program product as defined in claim 27, the
2 remote method invocation system further including a nameserver [for providing] configured to
3 *b6 b7c* provide a said server identification, said remote server identifier code devices [enabling] being
4 configured to enable said computer to initiate communication with said nameserver to obtain the
5 server identification for said remote method.

1 31 (Amended). For use in connection with a remote method invocation system, a stub retrieval and
2 loading subsystem for controlling the retrieval and loading of a stub for a remote method into an
3 execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said
4 execution environment, the stub retrieval subsystem comprising:

- 5 A. a computer; and
- 6 B. a control arrangement [for controlling] configured to control said computer, said control
7 arrangement comprising:
- 8 i. a stub retrieval module [for controlling] configured to control said computer to
9 initiate a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said
10 remote method; and
- 11 ii. a stub loader module [for controlling] configured to control said computer to, when
12 said stub is received in response to said stub retrieval module, load said stub into said
13 execution environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in remote
14 invocation of said remote method.

1 32 (Amended). A control arrangement for use in connection with a computer to control the retrieval
2 and loading of a stub for a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of
3 the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, said control arrangement
4 comprising:

- 5 i. a stub retrieval module [for controlling] configured to control said computer to initiate a
6 retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method; and
7 ii. a stub loader module [for controlling] configured to control said computer to, when said stub
8 is received in response to said stub retrieval module, load said stub into said execution
9 environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in remote invocation of said remote
10 method.

1 33 (Amended). A system for distributing code stored on a computer readable medium and executable
2 by a computer, the code including a plurality of modules each configured to control the computer
3 to facilitate the retrieval and loading of a stub for a remote method into an execution environment
4 to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment,
5 said system comprising:

- 6 i. a stub retrieval module [for controlling] configured to control said computer to initiate a
7 retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method; and
8 ii. a stub loader module [for controlling] configured to control said computer to, when said stub
9 is received in response to said stub retrieval module, load said stub into said execution
10 environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in remote invocation of said remote
11 method.